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Milford Port Health Authority.

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Annual Report

for the year 1953,

of the

Medical Officer of Health.

D. T. PEARCE LTD. MILFORD HAVEN

Preface to the Report.

District Health Department,
County Office,
Haverfordwest,
March, 1954.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Milford Port Health Authority.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I present my Report upon matters affecting the Port Health for the year 1953.

The Report is dealt with in seventeen sections. All these Sections were fully reported in the 1952 Report. Following the instruction of the Ministry of Health, those Sections which show no change from the 1952 Report are simply marked "No Change". Therefore, if the position under these Sections is to be fully understood, reference will have to be made to the 1952 Report.

This Report is essentially factual. The day to day routine of the Authority is under the control of the Port Sanitary Inspector.

We should like to see many improvements in the storage and transport of Fish, and in the conditions prevailing aboard Trawlers. But we must compromise between the ideal and what is economically possible. There has, however, been a steady improvement in matters relating to the fishing industry, and generally speaking, there is a good co-operation between all concerned.

If the proposed developement of the Port of Milford Haven takes place, then the work of the Port Health Authority is going to increase considerably. With the arrival of more ships from foreign ports the vigil against the importation of disease, persons and food will require to be strengthened. This will mean more responsibility upon the Authority and its officers.

I wish to thank the Chairman and members of the Authority for their continued courtesy and co-operation, and to commend the routine handling of Port Health matters by your Sanitary Officer and Clerk.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

W. J. Y. SPEEDY,

Port Medical Officer of Health.

Members of the Authority,

1953-54.

Chairman : COUNCILLOR JAMES JOHN, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : ALDERMAN J. S. JAMES.

Representative Members :

Haverfordwest Borough :—	Alderman R. G. Noot, J.P. Councillor C. Ivor Male.
Haverfordwest R.D.C. :—	Councillor James John, J.P. Councillor F. L. Ward. Councillor Llewellyn Williams.
Milford Haven U.D.C. :—	Councillor V. T. Cleaver, Councillor M. Kingston.
Narberth R.D.C. :—	Councillor W. C. John.
Neyland U.D.C. :—	Councillor G. F. Rees.
Pembroke Borough :—	Alderman J. S. James. Alderman A. W. Hopkins. Alderman D. W. Rees, J.P., M.B.E. Councillor G. H. Jenkins.
Pembroke R.D.C. :—	Councillor H. D. Howells. Councillor W. J. Jenkins. Councillor John James.

Constitution of Authority

By an Order dated 21/12/1875, Milford and Riparian Districts were temporarily constituted a Port Sanitary Authority. An Order of 24th April, 1878, made this permanent. A Provisional Order of 1897 repealed the above Order of 1878, and the Port Sanitary Authority was again permanently constituted by Order of 1/9/1898.

Previous to these Orders the Borough of Pembroke was temporarily constituted a Port Sanitary Authority in 1873, and acted as such until the Order of 1875 temporarily appointed Milford and the Riparian Districts as the Port Sanitary Authority.

The Joint Board at this time consisted of 13 members as follows:—

	No. of Members
Borough of Pembroke	3
Pembroke Rural	3
Haverfordwest Rural	3
Borough of Haverfordwest	2
Narberth Rural	1
Milford Improvement Commissioners	1

By further Orders of the Local Government Board in 1898 and 1915, the constitution of the Board at present is as follows :—

	No. of Members
The Borough of Pembroke	4
The Borough of Haverfordwest	2
The Urban District Council of Milford Haven	2
The Urban District of Neyland	1
The Rural District of Haverfordwest	3
The Rural District Council of Narberth	1
The Rural District Council of Pembroke	3

Neyland Urban District Council was made a Constituent Authority in 1915.

Section I. Staff.

TABLE A.

No Change.

Section II.

Shipping Entering Port During the year.

TABLE B.

	Foreign	Coastwise	Total
No. of Ships	255	1,867	2,122
Tonnage	263,182	209,593	472,775
Nos. Inspected :—			
By M.O.H.	1	—	1
By S.I.	—	230	230
No. of Infected Ships	Nil	Nil	Nil

Section III.

TABLE C.

Character of Shipping and Trade during the year.

1. **Passenger Traffic.**

Nil.

2. **Cargo Traffic.**

Principal Imports	... ...	Fish	32,773 tons
Principal Exports	... ...	Nil.	

3. **Foreign Ports from which shipping entered the Port during the year :—**

Georgetown.	Sydney.	Montreal.	Quebec.
Valencia.	Lubeck.	Hangsund.	Lisbon.
Boston.	Baltimore.	Trinidad.	Barbados.
Amsterdam.	Providence.	Gibraltar.	

Section IV.

Inland Barge Traffic.

No Change.

Section V.

Water Supply.

No Change.

The following is a summary of Water Sampling results in Trawlers during the year. The samples were forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory, Carmarthen for general bacteriological examination i.e., b.coli colony count.

Satisfactory	...	155	(68.8%)
			(12.2%)
Doubtful	...	27	
Unsatisfactory	...	43	(19.0%)
Total	...	225	

The number of unsatisfactory samples has fallen from 31% in 1952 to 19% in 1953.

43 Informal notices in regard to purity of water supplies were served to Trawler Owners during the year.

Section VI.

Public Health (Ships) Regulations 1952.

No Change.

Section VII.

Small Pox.

Report as 1952.

Section VIII.

Venereal Diseases.

No Change.

Section IX.

TABLE D.

Infectious Diseases.

Nil to Report.

Section X.

Malaria in Ships.

Nil to report.

Section XI.

Plague in Infected or Suspected Ships.

Nil to Report.

Section XII.

TABLES E. and F.

Rodent Control on Ships from Foreign Ports.

Nil to Report.

Rodent Control on Trawlers.

No. of Trawlers Treated.	Poison.	Estimated kill.	Bodies recovered.	Type of Rodent.
13	Zinc Phosphide & Warfarin	44	29	Ship Rat (Black)

No Rodents were collected for bacteriological or pathological examination.

Section XIII.

TABLE G.

Inspection of Ships for Nuisances.

	Sanitation & Crews' Spaces.	Rodent & Insect Infestation.	Total.
No. of Inspections	71	65	136
Informal Notices	2	—	2
Formal Notices	—	—	—

Section XIV.

Public Health (Shell Fish) Regulations 1934 & 1946.

No Change.

Dr. H. A. Cole has advised the South Wales Sea Fisheries District Committee regarding the laying of oyster beds within the Milford Haven Port Health boundaries. Further information on this is awaited.

Section XV.

Medical Inspection of Aliens.

Nil to Report.

Section XVI.

Miscellaneous.

No Change.

Section XVII.

Food Inspections.

FISH.

Fish is the principal import to the Port and a large part of the time of the Port Sanitary Inspector is taken up with the inspection of fish as it is landed.

The following Table shows the monthly amount of fish handled during 1953.

Tons.

Month.	Dispatched by rail.	Dispatched by road.	Fish Meal factory.	Total.
January	2,863	191	319	3,373
February	2,099	144	193	2,436
March	2,639	164	249	3,052
April	2,024	165	223	2,412
May	2,163	157	223	2,543
June	2,153	153	230	2,536
July	2,423	209	274	2,906
August	2,449	179	270	2,898
September	2,322	183	199	2,704
October	2,404	181	198	2,783
November	2,001	163	200	2,364
December	2,183	154	306	2,643
1953	27,723	2,043	2,884	32,650

Food-stuffs Condemned.

The following food-stuffs were condemned during the year :—

Fish	... ...	2,234 stones
Tinned Plums	...	25 tins
Mutton	...	19 lbs.